IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JUL 28 2004

In re application of:

Examiner: T. Miller

Johann BELLER et al

Group Art Unit: 2855

Appln. No. 09/884,955

Filed: June 21, 2001

For: APPARATUS FOR GENERATING É AND CONDUCTING A FLUID FLOW,) AND METHOD OF MONITORING SAID APPARATUS

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION REQUESTING CONSIDERATION OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), Applicant, through counsel, hereby petition the Commissioner for consideration of the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement which is being submitted after issuance of the Notice of Allowance and concurrently with payment of the Issue Fee in the application.

The art cited in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited by the Canadian Patent

Office during the prosecution of the corresponding Canadian application.

It was noted in the Canadian Patent Office that this reference (Natwick) does not disclose a measuring arrangement responsive to the displacement motions performed by the flow vessel and having a strain sensor for sensing a strain of the support means and providing a sensor signal representative of the displacement motions performed by the flow vessel. Further, Natwick does not teach or suggest the use of the pressure sensor output signal (shown in Fig. 16, oscilloscope trace 600, Fig. 17, oscilloscope trace 620 or Fig. 18,

oscilloscope trace 640 in connection with the disclosure on page 25, line 17 to page 26, line 35) for deriving a frequency of the displacement motions, for estimating an instantaneous volume flow rate of the fluid and/or a totalized volume or for deriving a suction head of the apparatus as claimed. Moreover, Natwick discloses only the use of the pressure signals for detecting occlusion of the flow lines (= flow vessel).

Finally, Natwick does not disclose or teach either a sampler for taking samples of a fluid or a method of operating such a sampler because there is only disclosed a medical pump system acting on a patient's vascular system (see page 1, lines 20 ff).

Please charge any fee associated with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit

Account 02-0200

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Phone: (703) 683-0500

Date: July 28, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

Felix J. D'Ambrosio

Registration No. 25,721

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U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office Value of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office			Atty. Docket Number BELL3001/FJD		Serial Number 09/884,955				
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or no t citation is in conf ormance with MPEP 609; Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date Considered

Examiner